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EXAMINER

BOUTAH, ALINA A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2143

DATE MAILED: 09/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/520,435

Applicant(s)

GOOSSEN ET AL.

Examiner

Alina N Boutah

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 August 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,6-15 and 17-48 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,6-15 and 17-48 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

This action is in response to the Applicant's request for reconsideration received August 23, 2005. Claims 1-4, 6-15, and 17-48 are currently pending in the present application.

Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-8, 11-19, 21-23, 26-28, 30-31 and 33-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over USPN 6,175,856 issued to Riddle in view of USPN 6,525,830 issued to Yang in further view of USPN 6,707,948 issued to Cosman et al (hereinafter referred to as Cosman).

Regarding claim 1, Riddle teaches a method in a computer system for transferring a compressed data file from a software application running within the computer system to a device in communication with the computer system, said method comprising:

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receiving a request to transfer a compressed data file to the device from the software application (Abstract; col. 7, lines 54 – col. 8, lines 17);

determining whether the device is configured to decompress the compressed data file (Abstract; col. 7, line 54 – col. 8, line 17; col. 9, lines 6-13);

if the device is configured to decompress the compressed data file, obtaining the compressed data file from the software application (Abstract; col. 7, lines 54 – col. 8, lines 17); and

transferring the data file to the device via a device driver interface (Abstract; col. 7, lines 54 – col. 8, lines 17).

Although Riddle does not explicitly teach “wherein said transferring includes performing coordinate transformations to the data file,” he discloses image reduction, which implies coordinate transformations of the data file (col. 10, line 57 to col. 11, line 12).

However, Riddle fails to teach the device being a printer. Yang teaches transferring a data to a printer to be compressed and decompressed (abstract; col. 2, lines 9-15). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to employ a printer as said device in order to facilitate the transferring of the compressed data file, therefore improving printing speed (col. 2, lines 9-15).

Cosmos teaches performing coordinate transformations to a data file (abstract; col. 13, lines 17-28). At the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated perform coordinate transformation to a data file in order to resize the file so that it will be more suitable for the printer’s capability, thus providing faster printing and better printing quality (abstract).

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Regarding claim 2, Riddle teaches the method as recited in claim 1, wherein said receiving a request to transfer a compressed data file includes receiving a data structure from the software application, the data structure containing an indication of a classification of the compressed data file format and a pointer to the compressed data file (col. 9, lines 40-66).

Regarding claim 3, Riddle teaches the method as recited in claim 1, wherein said determining whether the peripheral device is configured to decompress the compressed data file further comprises:

obtaining a device file decompression configuration data structure, the data structure containing data indicative of compressed data file formats supported by the device (Abstract; col. 7, line 54 – col. 8, line 17; col. 9, lines 6-13, 40-66); and

determining whether the file decompression configuration data structure indicates whether the device is configured to decompress the compressed data file (Abstract; col. 7, line 54 – col. 8, line 17; col. 9, lines 6-13, 40-66).

However, Riddle fails to teach the device being a printer. Yang teaches transferring a data to a printer to be compressed and decompressed (abstract; col. 2, lines 9-15). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to employ a printer as said device in order to facilitate the transferring of the compressed data file, therefore improving printing speed (col. 2, lines 9-15).

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Regarding claim 4, Riddle teaches the method as recited in claim 3, wherein said determining whether the file decompression configuration data structure indicates whether the peripheral device is configured to decompress the compressed data file includes:

passing a compressed data file pointer to the device (col. 9, lines 50-56); and

receiving an indication whether the device is configured to decompress the compressed data file (col. 9, lines 50-56).

However, Riddle fails to teach the device being a printer. Yang teaches transferring a data to a printer to be compressed and decompressed (abstract; col. 2, lines 9-15). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to employ a printer as said device in order to facilitate the transferring of the compressed data file, therefore improving printing speed (col. 2, lines 9-15).

Regarding claim 6, Riddle teaches the method as recited in claim 1, wherein said transferring includes performing file processing to the data file (col. 9, lines 25-28).

Regarding claim 7, Riddle teaches the method as recited in claim 1, wherein the compressed data file is a compressed data image (col. 9, lines 54-56).

Regarding claim 8, Riddle teaches the method as recited in claim 7, wherein the compressed data image file is a JPEG image (col. 9, lines 54-56).

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Regarding claim 11, Riddle teaches one or more computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions for performing the steps recited in claim 1 (Abstract; col. 7, lines 54 – col. 8, lines 17; see rejection of claim 1).

Regarding claim 12, Riddle teaches a computer system having a memory, an operating system and a central processor being operable to execute the method recited in claim 1 (figure 3; see rejection of claim 1).

Regarding claim 13, Riddle teaches one or more computer-readable media having computer-executable components comprising:

(a) a device support query component for determining whether a device is configured to decompress a compressed data file associated with an application (Abstract; col. 7, line 54 – col. 8, line 17; col. 9, lines 6-13);

(b) an application interface component for receiving the compressed data file from the application (Abstract; col. 7, line 54 – col. 8, line 17; col. 9, lines 6-13, 40-66); and

(c) a device interface component for transferring the compressed data file to the device (Abstract; col. 7, line 54 – col. 8, line 17; col. 9, lines 6-13, 40-66).

Although Riddle does not explicitly teach “wherein said transferring includes performing coordinate transformations to the data file,” he discloses image reduction, which implies coordinate transformations of the data file (col. 10, line 57 to col. 11, line 12).

However, Riddle fails to teach the device being a printer. Yang teaches transferring a data to a printer to be compressed and decompressed (abstract; col. 2, lines 9-15). At the time the

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invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to employ a printer as said device in order to facilitate the transferring of the compressed data file, therefore improving printing speed (col. 2, lines 9-15).

Cosmos teaches performing coordinate transformations to a data file (abstract; col. 13, lines 17-28). At the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated perform coordinate transformation to a data file in order to resize the file so that it will be more suitable for the printer's capability, thus providing faster printing and better printing quality (abstract).

Regarding claim 14, Riddle teaches the media of claim 12, wherein said application interface component includes a compressed data file information transformation component for manipulating data within the compressed data file (col. 1, lines 59-60).

Regarding claim 15, Riddle teaches a method in a computer system for transferring a compressed data image file from a software application running within the computer system to a device in communication with the computer system, said method comprising:

receiving a file query from the software application, the file query containing a pointer to a compressed data image file and a designation of a type of compressed data image file (Abstract; col. 7, line 54 – col. 8, line 17; col. 9, lines 6-13);

comparing the designation of compressed data image file with a data structure containing data indicative of types of compressed data image files supported by the device (col. 7, line 54 – col. 8, line 17);

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if the device supports the compressed data image file format, passing a pointer to the compressed data image file and the designation of a type of compressed data image file to query for to the device (col. 7, line 54 – col. 8, line 17);

if the device is configured to decompress the compressed data file, returning an answer (col. 7, line 54 – col. 8, line 17);

obtaining a data structure having data indicative of the compressed data image file from the software application (col. 7, line 54 – col. 8, line 17); and

upon obtaining the data structure, transferring the data image file to the device via a device driver interface (Abstract; col. 7, line 54 – col. 8, line 17; col. 9, lines 6-13, 40-66).

However, Riddle fails to teach the device being a printer. Yang teaches transferring a data to a printer to be compressed and decompressed (abstract; col. 2, lines 9-15). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to employ a printer as said device in order to facilitate the transferring of the compressed data file, therefore improving printing speed (col. 2, lines 9-15).

Regarding claim 17, Riddle teaches the method as recited in claim 15, wherein said transferring includes performing image processing to the data image file (col. 9, lines 25-28).

Regarding claim 18, Riddle teaches the method as recited in claim 15, wherein said transferring includes passing the transferred compressed image file in a data structure (col. 9, lines 40-54).

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Regarding claim 19, Riddle teaches the method as recited in claim 15, wherein the compressed data image file is a JPEG compressed data image file (col. 9, lines 54-56).

Regarding claim 21, Riddle teaches the method as recited in claim 15, further comprising returning a negative answer and receiving an uncompressed data image file from the software application if the device is not configured to receive the compressed data image file (col. 1, lines 31-43).

Regarding claim 22, Riddle teaches one or more computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions for performing the steps recited in claim 15 (col. 25, line 27- col. 26, line 33; see rejection of claim 15).

Regarding claim 23, Riddle teaches a computer system having a memory, an operating system and a central processor being operable to execute the method recited in claim 15 (col. 25, line 27- col. 26, line 33).

Regarding claim 26, Riddle teaches a method in a computer system for transferring a compressed data file from a software application running within the computer system to a device in communication with the computer system, said method comprising:

requesting a determination whether the device is configured to decompress the compressed data file (Abstract; col. 7, line 54 – col. 8, line 17; col. 9, lines 6-13);

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receiving a response whether the device is so configured (Abstract; col. 7, line 54 – col. 8, line 17; col. 9, lines 6-13); and

if the device is configured to decompress the compressed data file, transferring the compressed data file to the device (Abstract; col. 7, line 54 – col. 8, line 17; col. 9, lines 6-13).

Although Riddle does not explicitly teach “wherein said transferring includes performing coordinate transformations to the data file,” he discloses image reduction, which implies coordinate transformations of the data file (col. 10, line 57 to col. 11, line 12).

However, Riddle fails to teach the device being a printer. Yang teaches transferring a data to a printer to be compressed and decompressed (abstract; col. 2, lines 9-15). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to employ a printer as said device in order to facilitate the transferring of the compressed data file, therefore improving printing speed (col. 2, lines 9-15).

Cosmos teaches performing coordinate transformations to a data file (abstract; col. 13, lines 17-28). At the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated perform coordinate transformation to a data file in order to resize the file so that it will be more suitable for the printer’s capability, thus providing faster printing and better printing quality (abstract).

Regarding claim 27, Riddle teaches the method as recited in claim 26, wherein said requesting includes passing a pointer to the compressed data file and a indication of a type of compressed data file to the computer system (col. 9, lines 40-66).

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Regarding claim 28, Riddle teaches the method as recited in claim 26, wherein said transferring includes passing the compressed data file to the device via a data structure (col. 9, lines 40-54).

Regarding claim 30, Riddle teaches the method as recited in claim 26, wherein the compressed data file is a compressed data image file (col. 9, lines 54-56).

Regarding claim 31, Riddle teaches the method as recited in claim 30, wherein the compressed data image file is a JPEG compressed data image file (col. 9, lines 54-56).

Regarding claim 33, Riddle teaches one or more computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions for performing the steps recited in claim 26 (col. 25, line 27 - col. 26, line 33).

Regarding claim 34, Riddle teaches a computer system having a memory, an operating system and a central processor being operable to execute the method recited in claim 26 (figure 3).

Regarding claim 35, Riddle teaches one or more computer-readable media having stored thereon a data structure, comprising:

- (a) data indicating a classification of a compressed data file (col. 9, lines 40-66);
- (b) data indicative of a property of the compressed data file (col. 9, lines 40-66); and

(c) data indicative of whether a device is configured to decompress the compressed data file (Abstract; col. 7, line 54 – col. 8, line 17; col. 9, lines 6-13).

Although Riddle does not expressly teaches fields for indicating the classification, property, and whether the device is configured to decompress data file, Riddle teaches combining data into packets before transmitting them to devices (col. 6, lines 19-34). It is known in the art that data packets contain “fields” in order to identify the contents in the packets.

Although Riddle does not explicitly teach “wherein said transferring includes performing coordinate transformations to the data file,” he discloses image reduction, which implies coordinate transformations of the data file (col. 10, line 57 to col. 11, line 12).

However, Riddle fails to teach the device being a printer. Yang teaches transferring a data to a printer to be compressed and decompressed (abstract; col. 2, lines 9-15). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to employ a printer as said device in order to facilitate the transferring of the compressed data file, therefore improving printing speed (col. 2, lines 9-15).

Cosmos teaches performing coordinate transformations to a data file (abstract; col. 13, lines 17-28). At the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated perform coordinate transformation to a data file in order to resize the file so that it will be more suitable for the printer’s capability, thus providing faster printing and better printing quality (abstract).

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Regarding claim 36, Riddle teaches the data structure recited in claim 35, wherein the first field includes data indicating an escape function identifying the classification of the compressed data file (col. 9, lines 40-66).

Regarding claim 37, Riddle teaches the data structure recited in claim 35, wherein the first field includes a numeral identifying the classification of the compressed data file (computer code: StartMovieTalk, col. 12).

Regarding claim 38, Riddle teaches the data structure recited in claim 35, wherein the second field includes a pointer to a compressed data file stored in a memory (col. 17, lines 24-38).

Regarding claim 39, although Riddle does not expressly teaches the data structure recited in claim 35, wherein the second field includes an address to a compressed data file, by the principle of inherency, in a data packet, there is a field that must include an address for identification purposes.

Regarding claim 40, although Riddle does not expressly teach the data structure recited in claim 35, wherein the second field includes a copy of the compressed data file, in order to deliver the data, a copy of the file must be inherently included in the packet.

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Regarding claim 41, Riddle teaches the data structure recited in claim 35, wherein the third field includes a numeral indicative of whether the device is configured to decompress the compressed data file (computer code: StartMovieTalk, col. 12).

Regarding claim 42, Riddle teaches the data structure recited in claim 35, wherein the compressed data file is a compressed data image file (col. 9, lines 54-56). However, Riddle fails to expressly teach the device being a printer. However, Riddle fails to teach the device being a printer. Yang teaches transferring a data to a printer to be compressed and decompressed (abstract; col. 2, lines 9-15). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to employ a printer as said device in order to facilitate the transferring of the compressed data file, therefore improving printing speed (col. 2, lines 9-15).

Regarding claim 43, Riddle teaches the data structure recited in claim 42, wherein the compressed data image file is a JPEG compressed data image file (col. 9, lines 54-56).

Claims 9, 10, 20, 24, 25, 29, 32 and 44-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Riddle in view of Yang in view of Cosman, in further view of Applicants' admitted prior art.

Regarding claims 9, 20, 32 and 44, Riddle fails to explicitly teach the compressed data image file as recited in claims 7, 15, 30, and 42, respectively, as being a PNG compressed data image file. Riddle, however, teaches supporting compressed file such as JPEG H.261 and RPZA

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(Col. 9, lines 49-67). Applicant's admitted prior art teaches conventional devices capable of receiving and processing compressed data files such as JPEG and PNG (Specification, page 1, lines 10-11). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to support PNG compressed data image file expand the capability of the transferring of the compressed data from a software application to a device.

Regarding claims 10 and 29, Riddle fails to teach the method as recited in claims 1 and 26, respectively, further comprising the step of receiving an uncompressed data file from the software application if the device is not configured to receive the compressed data file. Riddle also fails to teach the device being a printer. Yang teaches compressing and decompressing data in a printer. Applicant's admitted prior art teaches decompressing the compressed data file and transferring the uncompressed data file to a peripheral device if the device is not configured to decompress the compressed data file (Specification, page 1, line 22 to page 2, line 23; page 19, lines 5-7). At the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate the teaching of Applicant's admitted prior art into the teaching of Riddle and Yang in order to ensure that the receiving device will receive a data no matter what, and employ a peripheral device as said device in order to facilitate the transferring of the compressed data file from a software application to a peripheral device.

Regarding claim 24, Riddle fails to teach the method as recited in claim 15, wherein the file query, the query response and the file transfer are facilitated by a graphics driver interface and a hardware device driver. Applicant's admitted prior art teaches facilitating a file transfer by

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a graphics driver interface and a hardware device driver (Specification, page 2, lines 7-23). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to facilitate the file transfer by a graphics driver interface and a hardware device driver in order to store the file or sends the file to a spooler for later processing (Specification, page 2, line 10-12).

Regarding claim 25, Riddle fails to teach the method as recited in claim 24, wherein said device driver is a printer driver. Yang teaches said device driver being a printer driver (abstract; col. 2, lines 9-15). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to employ a printer as said device in order to facilitate the transferring of the compressed data file, therefore improving printing speed (col. 2, lines 9-15).

Regarding claim 45, Riddle teaches a method in a computer system for rendering a compressed data file on a device in communication with a computer system, said method comprising:

receiving a request to send a compressed data file to the device (Abstract; col. 7, lines 54 – col. 8, lines 17);

determining whether the device is configured to decompress the compressed data file (Abstract; col. 7, line 54 – col. 8, line 17; col. 9, lines 6-13); and

if the device is configured to decompress the compressed data file, sending the compressed data file to the device, whereby the device can render the compressed data file (Abstract; col. 7, lines 54 – col. 8, lines 17).

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Although Riddle does not explicitly teach “wherein said transferring includes performing coordinate transformations to the data file,” he discloses image reduction, which implies coordinate transformations of the data file (col. 10, line 57 to col. 11, line 12).

However, Riddle fails to teach the device being a printer. Yang teaches transferring a data to a printer to be compressed and decompressed (abstract; col. 2, lines 9-15). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to employ a printer as said device in order to facilitate the transferring of the compressed data file, therefore improving printing speed (col. 2, lines 9-15).

Cosmos teaches performing coordinate transformations to a data file (abstract; col. 13, lines 17-28). At the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated perform coordinate transformation to a data file in order to resize the file so that it will be more suitable for the printer’s capability, thus providing faster printing and better printing quality (abstract).

Applicant’s admitted prior art teaches decompressing the compressed data file and transferring the uncompressed data file to a peripheral device if the device is not configured to decompress the compressed data file (Specification, page 1, line 22 to page 2, line 23; page 19, lines 5-7). At the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate the teaching of Applicant’s admitted prior art into the teaching of Riddle in order to ensure that the receiving device will receive a data no matter what, and employ a peripheral device as said device in order to facilitate the transferring of the compressed data file from a software application to a peripheral device.

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Regarding claim 46, Riddle teaches the method as recited in claim 45, wherein receiving said request includes receiving a data structure from the software application, the data structure containing an indication of a type of the compressed data file and a pointer to the compressed data file (col. 9, lines 40-66).

Regarding claim 47, Riddle teaches the method as recited in claim 46, wherein said determining whether the device is configured to decompress the compressed data file further comprises:

obtaining a decompressed-configured data structure, the data structure containing data indicative of compressed-data-file formats supported by the device (col. 7, line 54 – col. 8, line 17); and

determining whether the file decompressing-configuration data structure indicates whether the peripheral device is configured to decompress the compressed data file (Abstract; col. 7, line 54 – col. 8, line 17; col. 9, lines 6-13).

However, Riddle fails to teach the device being a printer. Yang teaches transferring a data to a printer to be compressed and decompressed (abstract; col. 2, lines 9-15). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to employ a printer as said device in order to facilitate the transferring of the compressed data file, therefore improving printing speed (col. 2, lines 9-15).

Regarding claim 48, Riddle teaches the method of claim 45, wherein said device includes a rendering device (figures 3 and 6). However, Riddle fails to teach the device being a printer.

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Yang teaches transferring a data to a printer to be compressed and decompressed (abstract; col. 2, lines 9-15). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to employ a printer as said device in order to facilitate the transferring of the compressed data file, therefore improving printing speed (col. 2, lines 9-15).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alina N. Boutah whose telephone number is 571-272-3908. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (9:00 am - 5:00 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David A. Wiley can be reached on 571-272-3923. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ANB

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Wm C Vaughn, Jr.
WILLIAM C. VAUGHN, JR.
PRIMARY EXAMINER